

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims and specification as follows, without prejudice to subsequent renewal of the claims and specification in their original form. Per the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.121, the following claims are to be substituted for the corresponding previously pending claims of the same number(s). Marked-up versions showing the changes to the claims and specification are attached herewith.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims by substituting the following claims for the corresponding previously pending claim of the same number:

Please cancel claims 2, 7-11, 16, 24 and 26-28.

1. A process for suppressing the demyelination of nerve fibers in the nervous system of a human being in need of such treatment wherein said human being is treated with an amount of nerve growth factor (NGF) or with an amount of active fragments of NGF, which fragments are selected from the group consisting of NGF 2.5S, NGF 7S, and an NGF fragment consisting essentially of amino acids 10-25 and 75-88 of NGF linked by a disulfide bridge, which amount is effective to prevent demyelination.
3. The process according to claim 1, wherein said nerve growth factor is human NGF- β .
4. The process according to claim 1, comprising the administration of at least one protease inhibitor in combination with said NGF.
6. The method according to claim 1, wherein said NGF is administered in an amount sufficient to produce a concentration of NGF or an active fragment of NGF between 0.05 μ g and 5 μ g/kg body weight.
12. A process for suppressing further demyelination in a patient having a disease in which a demyelination of nerve fibers occurs, comprising administering an amount of nerve growth factor or an amount of an active fragment thereof, which fragment is selected from the group consisting of NGF 2.5S, NGF 7S, and an NGF fragment consisting essentially of amino

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